

REMARKS

Applicants have amended their claims in order to further clarify the definition of various aspects of the present invention. Specifically, Applicants have set forth the subject matter of claims 8 and 12, respectively as new claims 17 and 18. In light of new claims 17 and 18, Applicants have cancelled claims 8 and 12 without prejudice or disclaimer; and, moreover, have also cancelled claims 7, 9, 11 and 13-16 without prejudice or disclaimer. Moreover, Applicants have cancelled non-elected claims 1-4 and 10 without prejudice or disclaimer, and, in particular, without prejudice to the filing of a Divisional application directed to the subject matter thereof.

In addition, Applicants have amended claims 5 and 6 to recite a powder coating material according to claim 17. In light of amendments to claims 5 and 6, it is respectfully submitted that claims 5 and 6 now fall within the elected group of claims; and, moreover, and as will be discussed further infra, since claim 17 should now be allowed then claims 5 and 6 should also be allowed.

Applicants have amended their specification and Abstract in order to correct the spelling of "uretidione". In view of the number of amendments to the specification, Applicants are submitting a Substitute Specification. It is hereby stated by the undersigned that the Substitute Specification does not add new matter to the application, as can be seen in the also submitted marked-up copy of the original specification showing changes to the original specification as submitted herewith. In view thereof, and noting the spelling of "uretidione" in claims 17 and 18, it is respectfully submitted that the required correction set forth in Item 2 on page 2 of the Office Action mailed June 22, 2005, has been made.

The finality of the restriction requirement previously set forth in the Office

Action mailed April 15, 2005, in the above-identified application, is noted. The non-elected claims, insofar as such claims have not been amended to recite a powder coating material, have been cancelled without prejudice or disclaimer, and in particular without prejudice to the filing of a Divisional application directed to the subject matter thereof. In view of the canceling and amendment of non-elected claims in the above-identified application, it is respectfully submitted that the previously issued restriction requirement is now moot.

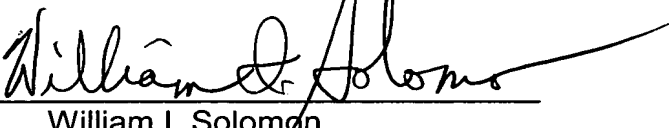
The rejection of claims 7, 9, 11, 13 and 15 as obvious over the combined teachings of U.S. Patent No. 5,596,066 to Laas, et al. and Japanese Patent Document No. 10-162563, set forth in Items 4-7 on pages 2 and 3 of the Office Action mailed June 22, 2005, is noted. Note that claims 7, 9, 11, 13 and 15 have been cancelled without prejudice or disclaimer; and that claims 17 and 18 include subject matter previously set forth in claims 8 and 12, including, inter alia, that the main material of the powder coating material includes a polyester polyol having a fraction of hydroxyl group bonded to secondary carbon atom of 30% or greater based on an amount of an entire hydroxyl group. In view of new claims 17 and 18, which are the sole independent claims remaining in the application, it is respectfully submitted that the prior art rejection set forth in the Office Action mailed June 22, 2005, is moot.

In view of the foregoing comments and amendments, reconsideration and allowance of all claims remaining in the application, and passing of the above-identified application to Issue in due course, are respectfully requested.

Please charge any shortage in fees due in connection with the filing of this paper to the Deposit Account of Antonelli, Terry, Stout & Kraus, LLP, Deposit Account No. 01-2135 (case No. 396.43422X00), and please credit any excess fees to such Deposit Account.

Respectfully submitted,

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